

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-0696
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6267

BILL NUMBER: HB 1410

NOTE PREPARED: Nov 18, 2005

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Bible Study.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Denbo

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: *Bible and Similar Works of Literature Electives:* The bill provides that a school corporation may include in its curriculum as an elective a study of world literature, including the Bible and other similar great works of literature.

Report on Academic Study of Religion: The bill requires the State Board of Education and the Division of Professional Standards to jointly develop and report to the Legislative Council before January 1, 2007, a plan to implement the academic study of religion in secondary schools.

Effective Date: July 1, 2006.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Bible and Similar Works of Literature Electives:* Biblical Literature is currently offered as an approved high school course for one credit under the curriculum area of English/Language Arts. In addition, World Literature is also offered as an approved high school course for one credit under the same curriculum area. The Department of Education already provides curriculum assistance for courses contained within English/Language Arts (including World and Biblical Literature). There should not be additional cost to the state regarding this portion of the bill.

Report on Academic Study of Religion: The electronic report to the Legislative Council should be able to be produced within the existing resources of the Department.

Background Information: As of October 4, 2005, the Department of Education had 295 full-time, 4 part-time, 11 intermittent employees, and 6 employees on leave. The Department reverted \$0.9 M in FY 2005.

The State Board of Education is scheduled to convene 12 times in CY 2005. Typically, the Board will meet for two consecutive days each month of the year.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: School corporations are already allowed to offer World and Biblical Literature electives via the English/Language Arts curriculum. It is not likely that this bill would result in additional administrative time or cost to school corporations.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Education, State Board of Education.

Local Agencies Affected: School Corporations.

Information Sources: Dr. Mary Andis, Department of Education; State of Indiana *HRM Detail Staffing Report 10/04/2005*; Indiana State Budget Agency: *General Fund, Property Tax Replacement Fund, Rainy Day Fund, Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2005, And Summaries*.

Fiscal Analyst: Chris Baker, 317-232-9851.